

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EB-11 OMB-01 AID-20 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01

SP-03 NIC-01 DRC-01 /104 W

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R 181538Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5462

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L VALLETTA 0734

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MT, LY

SUBJ: MALTESE PARLIAMENTARY VISIT TO LIBYA

REF: VALLETTA 0707

1. AT LUNCH APRIL 18, NATIONALIST MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT ALBERT BORG OLIVIER DE PUGET TOLD US THAT VISIT OF PARLIAMENTARIANS TO LIBYA APPEARS UNCERTAIN. ALTHOUGH DELEGATION WAS SUPPOSED TO DEPART APRIL 21, LIBYAN EMBASSY SAYS IT IS UNABLE TO ISSUE VISAS WITHOUT AUTHORITY FROM TRIPOLI, AND THAT AUTHORITY HAS NOT BEEN RECEIVED.

2. BORG OLIVIER DE PUGET SAID INVITATION WAS ISSUED, AND DATE OF VISIT ESTABLISHED BEFORE RECENT EVENTS IN LIBYA WHICH RESULTED IN CHANGED STATUS OF GHADAFI AND HALLOU. WE INQUIRED WHETHER VISAS WERE IN FACT NECESSARY, IN VIEW OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN LIBYA AND MALTA NOT TO REQUIRE VISAS FOR EACH OTHER'S NATIONALS. BORG OLIVIER DE PUGET SAID IN FACT THIS AGREEMENT WAS A ONE-WAY STREET; LIBYANS COULD ENTER MALTA WITHOUT VISAS BUT REVERSE WAS NOT TRUE.

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3. SEEMS LIKELY THAT PROBLEM ARISES FROM SOME FOUL-UP

IN LIBYAN BUREAUCRACY RATHER THAN DELIBERATE ATTEMPT
TO EMBARRASS MALTESE DELEGATION WHICH CONSIST OF
SPEAKER OF HOUSE AND TWO MEMBERS FROM EACH PARTY.
WE WOULD APPRECIATE COMMENTS FROM TRIPOLI IF THEY BE-
LIEVE THERE IS ANYTHING MORE TO THIS CURIOUS EPISODE. GETZ

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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